

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, consistent with Standing Rule XXVI, I ask unanimous consent that the rules of procedure of the Committee on Appropriations for the 118th Congress be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE RULES—118TH CONGRESS

#### I. MEETINGS

The Committee will meet at the call of the Chairman.

#### II. QUORUMS

1. Reporting a bill. A majority of the members must be present for the reporting of a bill.

2. Other business. For the purpose of transacting business other than reporting a bill or taking testimony, one-third of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

3. Taking testimony. For the purpose of taking testimony, other than sworn testimony, by the Committee or any subcommittee, one member of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum. For the purpose of taking sworn testimony by the Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum, and for the taking of sworn testimony by any subcommittee, one member shall constitute a quorum.

#### III. PROXIES

Except for the reporting of a bill, votes may be cast by proxy when any member so requests.

#### IV. ATTENDANCE OF STAFF MEMBERS AT CLOSED SESSIONS

Attendance of staff members at closed sessions of the Committee shall be limited to those members of the Committee staff who have a responsibility associated with the matter being considered at such meeting. This rule may be waived by unanimous consent.

#### V. BROADCASTING AND PHOTOGRAPHING OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS

The Committee or any of its subcommittees may permit the photographing and broadcast of open hearings by television and/or radio. However, if any member of a subcommittee objects to the photographing or broadcasting of an open hearing, the question shall be referred to the full Committee for its decision.

#### VI. AVAILABILITY OF SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

To the extent possible, when the bill and report of any subcommittee are available, they shall be furnished to each member of the Committee thirty-six hours prior to the Committee's consideration of said bill and report.

#### VII. AMENDMENTS AND REPORT LANGUAGE

To the extent possible, amendments and report language intended to be proposed by Senators at full Committee markups shall be provided in writing to the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member and the appropriate Subcommittee Chairman and Ranking Minority Member twenty-four hours prior to such markups.

#### VIII. POINTS OF ORDER

Any member of the Committee who is floor manager of an appropriations bill is hereby

authorized to make points of order against any amendment offered in violation of the Senate Rules on the floor of the Senate to such appropriations bill.

#### IX. EX OFFICIO MEMBERSHIP

The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the full Committee are ex officio members of all subcommittees of which they are not regular members but shall have no vote in the subcommittee and shall not be counted for purposes of determining a quorum.

## CONFIRMATION OF DANIEL CALABRETTA

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate voted on the nomination of Judge Daniel Calabretta, who has been nominated to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California. Born in Union City, TN, Judge Calabretta received his bachelor's degree, summa cum laude, from Princeton University, and his J.D., magna cum laude, from the University of Chicago.

After clerking for the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens and working in private practice for 3 years, Judge Calabretta spent the majority of his legal career—15 years in public service in California. As the Deputy Legal Affairs Secretary for California Governor Jerry Brown, Judge Calabretta advised officials on executive orders following emergency declarations. He then went on to work for the California Department of Justice, where he defended the Attorney General and other State officials in litigation on a variety of matters in Federal and State court. In 2019, Judge Calabretta was appointed to the California Superior Court as a Juvenile Court judge, where he has presided over approximately 200 bench trials.

The American Bar Association rated Judge Calabretta as unanimously "well qualified," and he has the strong support of Senators FEINSTEIN and PADILLA.

In addition to his qualifications and deep ties to the California legal community, Judge Calabretta will be the first openly LGBTQ+ person to serve on U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California.

I thank my colleagues for confirming him.

## UKRAINE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I would like to expand on my recent comments on the need to stand up to Putin to prevent future aggression and the death and suffering it causes. Specifically, I would like to address the calls from well-meaning people for a diplomatic solution.

Many people understandably want an end to the killing in Ukraine. I certainly do. So why not sit down and talk? As I have said before, we tried that after 2014, and it didn't work. We ended up with a full-scale invasion a year ago.

More fundamentally, it is important to consider what there is to negotiate

over. To start with, what is the nature of the disagreement? In other words, assuming you could get Putin or his representative to a negotiating table, what are the opposing positions and the potential middle ground?

Vladimir Putin has continued to repeat his original stated war aims, "demilitarization and denazification." Denazification in the context Putin uses it clearly means regime change. It is pretty clear that Putin thought he could take out the current elected government and install a puppet regime. President Biden publicly released the intelligence we had to that effect before the war began, which I think was a smart move.

Demilitarization means that Ukraine has to give up its right to defend itself, allowing Russia a free hand to intervene with force if Ukraine ever again tries to assert its right to act independently of Russia.

Obviously, President Zelenskyy cannot ever agree to meet those two demands. No President of a sovereign country could. Of course, in Putin's mind, Ukraine is not a sovereign country. That is the problem. Putin repeats a false version of history that says Ukraine is an artificially created country and rightfully part of Russia.

Ukraine has a long history of independence before it was ever conquered by Russia, in fact long before Russia even existed. But, for decades, Putin has pushed a warped, imperialistic view of history that is all too common among Russians.

When Putin repeatedly invokes Peter the Great, we should be concerned. Remember, Peter the Great was a Russian expansionist emperor who conquered lands like Finland and the Baltics from Sweden.

It may be comforting to buy into Putin's propaganda that he feels concern for the people in parts of Ukraine where they speak Russian and that perhaps those people want to be Russian. That makes his motives seem like they might have some justification. It also lulls us into the belief that Putin will be appeased once he cleaves off a chunk of eastern Ukraine. There is absolutely no reason to believe that, nor has Putin actually said that. The Russian Federation in its current borders has subsumed many non-Russian ethnicities and languages from past imperial conquests. Not speaking Russian never stopped them before.

In 1939, the Soviet Union attacked Finland in the Winter War despite its language and culture being very, very different from Russia. It was a nakedly imperial quest to reconquer lost territory of the Russian empire. Finland fought back and kept its independence, but Russia kept a big chunk of Karelia. This is an area that spoke a dialect of Finnish and was not historically Russian in any deep cultural or linguistic sense. Sadly today, in that region, Karelians maintaining their native language and culture represent a tiny minority of the population. Over the years, it has been thoroughly russified.